

THE BRITISH COLONIST

Wednesday Morning, July 13, 1864.

To Advertisers & the Public.

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, published every morning (Sundays excepted), is the largest and most widely circulated journal in Her Majesty's Colonies on the Pacific.

Resident Subscribers may have the same left at their residence at 25 cents per week, by furnishing their address at the Office of Publication.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST, published every Tuesday, will be mailed or left at the residence of Subscribers, ready for mailing, at 25 cents per week, payable to the carrier.

JOB PRINTING.

THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHING COMPANY having received a large addition to their stock of new and beautiful jobbing type, will execute orders to any extent with neatness and dispatch, at a slight advance on San Francisco prices.

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

Above all the topics that have engaged the attention of the politicians as well as the press of the two colonies, Union has probably monopolized the greatest share of discussion. No other question, however, has arrived at so meagre a result. This may be accounted for in two ways: First, that the people of the one colony seemed adverse to union; and second, that the people in neither colony seemed properly acquainted with the subject, generally or in detail. We do not presume to possess any extraordinary power of refutation on the matter ourselves, but we think that by a little careful and deliberate discussion of the question in its various bearings, some sound principles may be ultimately elicited.

Accepting, in the first place, the proposition that Union is desired by the inhabitants of Vancouver Island, we shall proceed, at the present opportune period for the discussion of the question, to examine into the various methods which have come up occasionally, though rather confusedly, in public controversy. The first scheme is one with which the inhabitants of both colonies are thoroughly familiar—the union which preceded the advent of Governor Kennedy. This union, if we can apply the term to elements so essentially discordant, was merely the concentration of the supreme power in both colonies under one head. In one colony the Governor was absolute, in the other his power was somewhat, at least in theory, restricted by representative institutions. To this inconsistent, inharmonious, and illogical position we cannot again descend. The neighboring colony has got a Legislature, such as it is; and no Governor in the future can make that colony subordinate to adverse interests. The union, therefore, approaching nearest a similar character to that of the old, would be one Governor with two Legislatures. This scheme would bear on its face its own absurdity. For, if the interests of the two colonies required, from their diversity, two separate Legislatures, they would on the same principle require two Governors. His Excellency might, therefore, some day find himself in the rather anomalous position of ascending to two measures diametrically opposed to each other. If, on the other hand, the interests were similar, two different Legislatures would be supererogatory. It is evident, therefore, that this system must be left out of the discussion.

The next scheme is one Legislature and one Governor—the number of representatives being equally divided between the two colonies. The free press of Vancouver Island, to be maintained intact. The first difficulty that arises under this method, is the inequality of the respective revenues, British Columbia's receipts exceeding those of Vancouver Island in the ratio of three to one; while the population is not materially different in number. To obviate the injustice that might arise from a distribution of the revenue, a proposition would be put forward to devote the revenue of each colony (after paying a proportionate share, according to the expenses of the country, towards official salaries), to that particular colony. Under present circumstances the system might possibly work, but it would soon become unwieldy and destroy the harmony which is so essential in the carrying out of all governments. Besides, as the population would increase in the one country more rapidly than in the other, the equal representation would soon be found a special grievance.

A third scheme also is one Legislature and one Governor—the representation being based on a sliding scale that would provide for any unequal increase of the population of the respective colonies. In this system no restrictions are to be placed on the distribution of the revenue, or on the action of the Legislature with regard to tariffs, or fiscal regulations generally. The full powers of a representative body are to be exercised, as if the colonies were one literally as well as virtually. To this British Columbia could offer no serious objections, but on the other hand Vancouver Island might be placing herself in a dangerous position. The whole political future of both colonies would rest with the majority of the Legislature. On it would depend the existence of our free port as well as our whole system of direct taxation. With a properly constituted Upper House, however, based on equal representation, the dangers might be considerably modified, and the people of both colonies brought to regard their interests as mutual.

We have given the gist of the various propositions which would, we have no doubt, be mooted in any convention or other public body assembled for the discussion of the question. That there are other schemes for union we are well aware; but no system can be built up unless on one or other of the above propositions. It is not our intention in the present article, to go minutely into the details of the question; but merely to allude to the prominent points. In a future number we shall endeavor to reconcile some of the existing difficulties, and suggest a scheme that may prove satisfactory to the unprejudiced of both colonies.

For Charter.

THE CLIPPER SHIP ROYAL CHARLIE, Captain W. Weeks, A1 10 years, 600 tons register.

Apply to
J. A. McCrea, CAMPBELL & CO.
Victoria, V. I., 12th July, 1864.

For Charter.

THE CLIPPER SHIP CHRYSLITE, Captain W. Weeks, A1 10 years, 600 tons register.

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COATS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND MAKE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

VESTS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND MAKE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

PAINTS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND MAKE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

SHIRTS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND SHAPE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

RUGS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND STYLE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

HOSIERY IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND MAKE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

HATS IN EVERY DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL AND SHAPE

EX "ROYAL CHARLIE." CHARLES LEVY, WHARF STREET.

ANTLER BED ROCK FLUME CO. Limited.

At a meeting of the directors held this day the following resolution was passed: That notice be served upon all defaulting shareholders requiring them to pay the calls due with interest thereon, such notice to state that in the event of non-payment, within one week from the date the shares shall be forfeited to the Company.

By order,
J. COCHRANE, Secretary.
12th July, 1864.

Skidgate Bay Copper Mining Co. (LIMITED).

NOTICE.
THE HALF-YEARLY ORDINARY General Meeting of the Shareholders in the above Company will be held in the room under the Board of Brokers, two minutes street, at MONDAY the 15th inst., at 4 o'clock, p.m.

N. L. NEESDADE, Secretary.
12th July, 1864.

NOTICE OF CALL.

At a meeting of the Directors of the above Company held this day, an Assentment of Fifty cents per share was levied to be paid to the Secretary on or before Monday, 12th inst.

N. L. NEESDADE, Secretary.
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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

AUCTION.

To-Morrow Thursday July 14th.

Wines and Spirits

DANIEL SCOTT & CO.

Are instructed to sell

AT THEIR ROOMS,

Fort Street, near Wharf, on

Thursday the 14th inst.,

At 11 o'clock, a.m.,

ON A LIBERAL CREDIT.

Brandies, equal to Martell or Hennessy, in bulk and case;

Claret, in case, Finest in the Market;

Amontillado Sherry, in bulk and case;

Old's 3 Grape Port Wine, in case and bulk;

Ale and Porter, in case and bulk;

Dark Brandy, in 1/2, 1/4, and puncheons; and

a Quantity of other Spirits.

Particulars on day of Sale. j12

Important

UNRESERVED

Auction Sale

—OF—

City Property!

Thursday, 21st July, 1864.

To Capitalists, Speculators, Merchants

and others in search of good Investments and First-Class Business Sites.

Yates Street

